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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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INFORMATION REPORT

CD NO.

COUNTRY

East Germany

DATE DISTR.

21 July 1952

SUBJECT

Volkspolizei Maneuvers Recalcitrance Among Personnel NO. OF PAGES

DATE OF INFO.

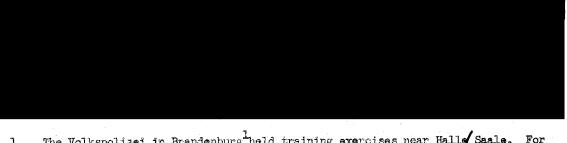
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SUPPLEMENT TO REPORT NO.

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- The Volkspolizei in Brandenburg held training exercises near Hall Saale. For 1. some days members refused to take part in close combat practice with fixed bayonets against dummies, saying that this had nothing to do with police service. They were brought before the VP-Rat Fritz (fnu), who made it clear to them that close combat pertained to police work. When 18 of the men still refused, they were discharged for refusing to obey orders. Their further fate is unknown. The other 11 men were transferred to Merseburg, Lustzen and Querfurt.
- The Volkspolized has held extensive maneuvers on the Saalwiesen near Schkopau in the Halle neighborhood. Here, for the first time, exercises were carried out in which a ground contaminating agent with smoke gas was employed. The Volkspolized was directed and instructed in the use of protective clothing (rubber costume), gas masks, and in how to test the ground for the presence of contaminating gas. A Soviet staff of eight officers attended the exercises. The instructors belonged to an officer's school at Naumburg/Saale, which apparently functions as a gas school. About 340 men took part in the exercises.

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The reference to Brandenburg is probably erroneous.

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